



SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION
Filed October 12, 2004

006450-413

BOTANICAL/COMMERCIAL CLASSIFICATION

Eupatorium dubium/Eupatorium Plant

VARIETAL DENOMINATION

cv. 'Little Joe'

Summary of the Invention

The new *Eupatorium dubium* plant was discovered while growing among a population of seedlings of this species in a nursery setting at Jennersville, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. The exact parentage of the new variety is unknown. I was primarily initially attracted to a single plant of the new variety in view of its more compact upright growth habit and more compact inflorescence. The single plant of the new variety was carefully preserved and evaluated. Had this plant not been discovered and preserved it would have been lost to mankind.

It was found that the new *Eupatorium dubium* plant of the present invention exhibits the following combination of characteristics:

- (a) forms a stiffer more upright and more compact growth habit,
- (b) displays an attractive more compact light lavender inflorescence, and
- (c) displays greater drought tolerance.

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The new variety of the present invention can be readily distinguished from other plants of the species in view of the distinctive combination of characteristics described herein.

The new variety well meets the needs of the horticultural industry. It is particularly well suited for providing attractive ornamentation in smaller landscapes, and for growing in areas that experience diminished rainfall.

The new variety has been found to undergo asexual propagation at West Grove, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. by division and by the use of cuttings. Asexual reproduction by these routes in Pennsylvania has shown that the combination of characteristics is firmly fixed and is strictly transmitted to subsequent generations.

The new variety has been named 'Little Joe'.

Brief Description of the Photographs

The accompanying photographs show as nearly true as it is reasonably possible to make the same in color illustrations of this character typical specimens of the plant and plant parts of the new variety. The plants of the new variety were three years of age and were photographed during August and September 2003 while growing in the ground at Jennersville, Pennsylvania. Dimensions in centimeters are included at the bottom of FIGS. 3 and 4.

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FIG. 1 illustrates an overall plant while blossoming in which the stiff upright and compact growth habit is displayed.

FIG. 2 illustrates a closer view of the generally compact inflorescence.

FIG. 3 illustrates a section of a typical stem while bearing leaves.

FIG. 4 illustrates an obverse view of a typical leaf.

Detailed Description

The chart used in the identification of colors is that of The Royal Horticultural Society (R.H.S. Colour Chart). General color terms are accorded their customary dictionary significance. The description is based upon the observation of a typical three-year-old plant of the new variety during August and September 2003 while growing in the ground at Jennersville, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

PLANT:

<i>type</i>	--	herbaceous perennial.
<i>height</i>	--	typically approximately 100 to 120 cm on average at the end of the growing season.

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	<i>width</i>	--	typically approximately 90 to 100 cm on average at the end of the growing season.
	<i>growth habit</i>	--	stiff, upright and compact from a relatively slow growing clump.
STEMS:	<i>color</i>	--	base coloration of mature stems commonly is near Green Group 143A and Yellow-Green Group 144B with spots of anthocyanin coloration near Purple Group 79B with some Purple Group 77A, 79A, and 79C, as well as Violet Group 83C.
FOLIAGE:	<i>general appearance</i>	--	medium to dark green and semi-glossy.
	<i>arrangement</i>	--	verticillate, sometimes 3 and more typically 4 leaves at a node.
	<i>petioles</i>	--	typically approximately 4 to 11 mm in length, and approximately 1.3 to 1.8 mm in width measured at the base of the leaf blade.

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- leaves* -- *type*: simple.
- *shape*: typically lanceolate to
 occasionally narrowly ovate.
- *apex*: narrowly acute.
- *base*: narrowly cuneate.
- *texture*: very rugose on the upper
 surface, similar to that of paper, and
 somewhat stiff.
- *size*: varies somewhat with the season
 and water availability during growth.
 Commonly a mature leaf is
 approximately 5 to 13 cm (averages
 approximately 10 cm) in length, and
 approximately 2 to 6 cm (averages
 approximately 4.5 cm) in width.
- *venation*: triple-veined with an elongate
 pair of basal lateral veins that is typical
 of the species.

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-- *color:* near Green Group 137A on the upper surface, and near Green Group 137C on the under surface with midrib vein of near Green Group 138D.

INFLORESCENCE:

<i>Type</i>	--	a plurality of heads arranged in a corymb with perfect individual flowers.
<i>Buds</i>	--	<i>color:</i> prior to opening near Red-Purple Group 62B with some Red-Purple Group 62A, 65A, and 73C.
<i>Flowers</i>	--	individual flowers commonly measure approximately 7 mm in length and approximately 2 mm in width, approximately 7 to 15 of these flowers commonly combine to form a flower head that commonly measures approximately 3 cm in length and approximately 2 cm in width, approximately 5 to 9 of the flower heads

combine to form a compound
inflorescence having a diameter of
approximately 5 cm, and approximately
8 to 10 of the compound inflorescences
combine to form an overall bloom
having a diameter of approximately
13 cm as illustrated in FIG. 2. The
coloration is near Red-Purple Group
69B commonly with some Red-Purple
Group 71B at the apex, and much of the
effective coloration is attributable to the
visible nature of the extended styles and
stigmas.

Styles -- one per floret, near Red-Purple Group
62C in coloration.

Stigmas -- one per floret, near Red-Purple Group
73C at the tip prior to the separation of
the stigmatic tip, and thereafter near
Red-Purple Group 62B.

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Stamen -- typically approximately 10 per flower.

DEVELOPMENT:

Blooming -- typically in August and continuing for
approximately two to three weeks.

Hardiness -- has withstood -20°F.

*Drought
Tolerance* -- superior to that commonly displayed by
the species.

*Disease
Resistance* -- typical of species with no particular
resistance or susceptibility to disease
having been observed to date.